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United Nations Fund for International Partnerships

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly decisions 52/466 and 53/475, wherein the Secretary-General was requested to inform the Assembly, on a regular basis, about the activities of the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP). Information is provided on the outcome of the seventeenth and eighteenth funding cycles as well as intersessional approvals that took place in 2005, progress in each programme area and a review of UNFIP activities in advocacy and partnership-building for the United Nations system. The present report supplements the information contained in the previous reports of the Secretary-General (A/53/700 and Add.1, A/54/664 and Add.1-3, A/55/763 and Corr.1, A/57/133, A/58/173, A/59/170 and A/60/327).

Member States will note that a total of $170.5 million was programmed for 2005. Broken down by programme area, the grants for the year were distributed as follows: children's health, $143.9 million for five new and one ongoing project; population and women, $2.7 million; environment, $10.1 million for eighteen projects; peace, security and human rights, $3.6 million for five projects (of which three are new); and $10.5 million for seven projects (of which four are new) outside the four thematic areas. Since the partnership between UNFIP and the United Nations Foundation was launched in 1998, a total of $809.5 million has been programmed.

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Contents

		Paragraphs	Page
I.	Introduction	1–4	3
II.	Programme	5–48	4
	A. Children's health	6–17	4
	B. Women and population	18–24	6
	C. Environment	25–34	8
	D. Peace, security and human rights	35–40	10
	E. Strategic initiatives	41–43	10
	F. Support to emergency response	44–47	11
	G. Monitoring and evaluation/programme review	48	12
III.	The United Nations Democracy Fund	49–50	12
IV.	Facilitating global partnerships for development	51–60	12
V.	Advocacy and public affairs	61–64	15
VI.	Funding rounds	65–66	16
VII.	Operational and financial arrangements	67–69	16
VIII.	Conclusion	70–73	17
Annexes			
I.	Composition of the 2005 United Nations Fund for International Partnerships advisory board		19
II.	Projects funded by the United Nations Foundation, by programme area		20

I. Introduction

1. The United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP) continued its partnership activities with the United Nations Foundation that was established by Robert E. (Ted) Turner to disburse his contribution of $1 billion in support of United Nations causes. In that capacity, UNFIP collaborated with United Nations system organizations to identify innovative, high-impact projects consistent with the programme frameworks for children's health; women and population; the environment; and peace, security and human rights. Projects and activities were identified in conformity with the Foundation's strategic objectives, the goals and objectives of the United Nations Millennium Declaration and related development goals. Those projects and activities were implemented on the basis of guidelines issued by the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) and in line with the common country assessment and the United Nations development assistance framework. Since the inception of the United Nations Foundation/UNFIP partnership in 1998, a total of $809.5 million (inclusive of co-financing) has been allocated to fund 376 projects with activities in 121 countries involving 39 United Nations organizations. The cumulative amount of co-financing from other funding partners was $360.4 million, or more than one third of all approved grants. In addition, parallel funding provided for the same programmes and projects amounted to nearly $322 million.

2. The year also proved especially challenging in dealing with two natural emergencies: the Indian Ocean tsunami of 24 December 2004 and the earthquake in Pakistan of 8 October 2005. The scale of the devastation and number of victims of the tsunami drew worldwide attention and an opportunity for unprecedented public response. It became evident that the needs of the survivors for health care, water supply and reconstruction, could be met by channelling resources through the United Nations Foundation/UNFIP programme frameworks, although providing relief assistance was a new direction for the partnership. Similarly, with regards to the earthquake in Pakistan, the United Nations Foundation and UNFIP found ways of providing assistance within their areas of competency.

3. As in previous years, UNFIP also undertook the responsibility for providing assistance to international private sector and foundations in developing partnership opportunities with United Nations common system organizations. In keeping with the 2005 World Summit Outcome and the Secretary-General's commitment to facilitating and coordinating collective action on shared principles and priorities, UNFIP focused efforts on the creation of networking and resource mobilization opportunities with a broad range of actors, including bilateral partners. As at 31 December 2005, UNFIP had fielded nearly 500 substantial enquiries about partnership with the United Nations system from a wide range of organizations, networks, coalitions and individuals.

4. On 4 July 2005, the Secretary-General announced the establishment of the United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF) at the African Union summit in Syrte. At the 2005 World Summit held at United Nations Headquarters in September, world leaders welcomed the establishment of the fund and supported it with a total of $41 million in contributions. UNFIP was tasked by the Secretary-General to launch UNDEF as soon as possible. With the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Department of Political Affairs and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR),

UNFIP undertook preparatory activities for the launch of UNDEF in early 2006 and its funding activities.

II. Programme

5. A detailed review is set out below of developments in the past year in programmes and projects being implemented with the support of the United Nations Foundation under the four programme themes: children's health; population and women; environment; and peace, security and human rights. In addition to these activities, the United Nations Foundation supported a number of strategic initiatives and facilitated the provision of small grants to United Nations activities.

A. Children's health

6. The children's health portfolio is comprised of 61 projects valued at $432.5 million, of which 49 have been completed. The supported projects address the following United Nations priorities: eradicating polio ($102.4 million); preventing tobacco use ($8.9 million); decreasing child mortality and preventing HIV/AIDS ($47.7 million); delivering micronutrients ($7.3 million); improving and sustaining vaccine delivery ($225.1 million); and strengthening community health knowledge and practices ($19.2 million). Projects falling outside the framework are valued at $21.9 million. In 2005 the children's health portfolio was granted $143.5 million.

7. The main areas of support in this portfolio concern measles control and polio eradication. Programme activities continue to take a preventative approach to children's health and seek to ensure that interventions funded by the United Nations Foundation contribute to strengthening public health infrastructure and building capacity for service delivery and surveillance in developing countries. Measles control, for example, is a cost-effective investment in reducing child mortality and morbidity that is measurable, replicable and realistic. It includes activities that can be readily adapted to scale and the demand for vaccination is very high.

8. Launched in 2001, the Measles Initiative in Africa brings valuable United Nations Foundation/UNFIP support to United Nations system agencies, including the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO). The partnership includes the American Red Cross, the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations, the Vodafone Foundation, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Canadian International Development Agency, numerous non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector. The Initiative has supported the vaccination of more than 200 million children in over 33 countries in Africa, reaching at least 90 per cent of the target population, thereby preventing over 300,000 deaths in 2003, the last year for which measles mortality data are available. The largest reduction was seen in Africa, the region where the burden of the disease is greatest. The partnership works closely with African Governments, local communities and civil society partners to make sure that all children at risk have access to measles vaccinations and related health interventions.

9. In 2005, the UNFIP Advisory Board and the United Nations Foundation Board of Directors approved phase VIII of the project entitled "Strengthening immunization services through measles control in Africa" for a total of $26.4 million. The extension of this joint UNICEF and WHO project continues to support measles campaigns in at least 16 countries in Africa, reaching over 33 million children. With an overall objective to lower measles mortality to near zero and reduce measles morbidity by 95 per cent, the project includes activities such as the provision of vaccines, syringes and other supplies and technical and financial support for microplanning, training and social mobilization. The programme also has the following associated objectives: to strengthen measles surveillance; to deliver additional health interventions such as vitamin A supplements, de-worming tablets and insecticide-treated bed nets for malaria control in target countries; and to strengthen existing partnerships in the field of immunization in the affected regions.

10. In response to the Indian Ocean tsunami of December 2004, the Measles Initiative in Africa mobilized new resources enabling the expansion of measles control activities to Asia. A total of $87 million generated by the American Red Cross was channelled through the United Nations Foundation and UNFIP for this purpose.

11. The United Nations Foundation submitted through the Measles Initiative in Africa, a proposal for measles immunization as an early activity of the International Finance Facility for Immunization (IFFIm) that was launched in September 2005. Support from IFFIm could reach as much as $150 million, permitting expansion to additional countries, including Cambodia, India, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Pakistan and Papua New Guinea.

12. The Global Polio Eradication Initiative is the largest international public health effort to date. A total of $91 million has been approved for the Initiative since 1999. The advocacy group of the Initiative comprises resource mobilization focal points from the United Nations Foundation, Rotary International, WHO and UNICEF.

13. Despite setbacks in 2004, polio eradication efforts regained momentum in 2005. Interruption of the polio virus transmission was attained in Egypt in 2005 and similar success is envisaged for a number of countries in 2006. WHO considers that ending transmission in 2006 is an attainable goal. The United Nations Foundation and UNFIP have engaged in fund-raising efforts with non-traditional donors to support polio eradication efforts. For example, in partnership with the United States Centres for Disease Control, a total of $15 million was provided for a third "buy-down", making nearly $50 million available for polio eradication efforts in Pakistan.

14. Malaria is a "silent tsunami" that kills more than 150,000 people every month (almost 2 million each year) and causes more than 300 million episodes of malarial illness in over 100 countries. It particularly affects the most vulnerable: children of 5 years of age and under, who account for more than 90 per cent of all deaths from malaria; pregnant women; and people infected with HIV/AIDS. Malaria kills at the rate of one child every 30 seconds in Africa. Malaria is also responsible for 10,000 maternal deaths annually, 10 per cent of low birth weight and 5 per cent of stillbirths in malaria-endemic countries.

15. Integrating malaria prevention activities into measles campaigns was an important development in 2005. A key limiting factor in malaria control in Africa is the short supply of insecticide-treated mosquito nets. The long-lasting treated nets can be used without replacement for an estimated three years, providing continued protection. The main focus therefore has been to increase the distribution of insecticide treated bednets during measles campaigns. The Measles Initiative in Africa targeted Chad, Equatorial Guinea and Togo in 2005 to demonstrate the practicality of providing insecticide treated bednets in conjunction with national campaigns.

16. During 2005 United Nations Foundation/UNFIP developed strategic approaches to solve financial obstacles in developing markets for the purchase of bednets. Working with the American International Group (AIG), the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the World Bank, ExxonMobil and others, risk management tools are being developed that can be applied to insure payment of long-lasting treated nets suppliers for scaling up capacity to meet global demand while reducing supply chain inefficiencies. The expected outcomes are improved product diversification and quality and reduction in delivery delays processes.

17. The United Nations Foundation/UNFIP programme and the Vodafone Foundation are partnering to strengthen United Nations disease surveillance systems. The mechanism under preparation for launch in 2006 is intended to support rapid and accurate information-gathering by the United Nations, which is critical to stopping the spread of epidemic and pandemic diseases, such as avian flu. With the collaboration of the United Nations, NGOs and private sector partners, the United Nations Foundation/UNFIP programme is designed to enhance disease surveillance capabilities with information and communications technologies. WHO piloted the mechanism in 2005 using a new software package that allows health professionals to input the needed data into handheld computers synchronized for sending local data to an accessible central information management system.

B. Women and population

18. In 2005, a total of $2.7 million was approved for projects in the women and population portfolio, bringing the total value of the portfolio to $132.1 million as at 31 December 2005. The portfolio is currently comprised of 62 ongoing projects implemented by 10 United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies. The primary implementing partners in the portfolio are the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UNICEF, WHO, UNDP, and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). Other United Nations partners include the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

19. Projects approved in the women and population portfolio in 2005 continued to foster a supportive environment for adolescent girls and women by improving social and economic opportunities, increasing access to reproductive health information and services and reducing gender-based violence. Another area of focus in the portfolio in 2005 was working to increase the capacity of countries to develop and

effectively implement the procurement and supply management of critical drugs and diagnostics for comprehensive HIV/AIDS treatment.

20. Young women in Africa aged 15 to 24 are two and a half times more likely to be infected by HIV/AIDS than young men of the same age. With the rapid spread of the epidemic in Africa, young married girls are now the group most vulnerable to infection by older, sexually active husbands. Therefore, reversing this trend and providing protection for adolescent girls is of critical importance. To address this challenge, the United Nations Foundation and UNFIP are collaborating with the Ethiopian Government, UNFPA, the Nike Foundation, the Population Council and local and international NGOs to highlight the dangers of early marriage through a country-focused advocacy and services initiative in three cities in Ethiopia. In Amhara, the project seeks to protect and support married adolescent girls and unmarried girls at risk of early marriage, while in Addis Ababa and Bahir Dar, the project seeks to protect and support vulnerable migrant girls at risk of exploitation.

21. The United Nations Foundation/UNFIP initiative entitled "Meeting the reproductive health needs of tsunami-affected women" was developed in response to the earthquake and subsequent tsunami of December 2004. This project, funded by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the United Nations Foundation, seeks to provide basic reproductive health and safe motherhood services to the most affected areas of Nanggröe Aceh Darussalam province in Indonesia. As part of this project, UNFPA was able to support the re-establishment of these critical services in the province's hospitals.

22. In another tsunami relief initiative in Sri Lanka, funded by the Zonta International Foundation, UNFPA is working to reduce and prevent violence against women. UNFPA is assisting the Sri Lankan Government at the national, district and local levels to establish mechanisms to increase the security of women and girls and limit or eliminate the situations that put them at risk. The project also aims to support measures to change knowledge, attitudes and behaviours that lead to violence against women.

23. The United Nations Foundation/UNFIP project entitled "Prevention of gender-based violence among Sudanese refugees in Chad" was developed in response to the humanitarian crisis in and around Darfur, Sudan. The project, funded by the Zonta International Foundation and managed by UNFPA, seeks to support the prevention of gender-based violence in the Oure Cassoni camp, which is the northernmost and second largest of the Sudanese refugee camps in eastern Chad. The project also aims to reduce the stigmatization that victims of sexual assault suffer while raising awareness in the camp of the negative impacts that gender-based violence has on women, their families and the wider community.

24. In another United Nations Foundation/UNFIP initiative, WHO is working to increase the capacity of countries to procure and manage the supply of critical HIV/AIDS drugs and diagnostics. The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and the World Bank Multi-Country HIV/AIDS Program for Africa provide grants to countries for the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS, but the lack of capacity of countries to effectively develop and implement the procurement and supply management component is often an obstacle to making these grants available to countries. To address this problem, WHO will provide the necessary technical assistance.

C. Environment

25. The two principal funding priorities in the environment area are biodiversity, and sustainable energy and climate change. The overall environment portfolio since 1998 is valued at $167.3 million, of which $79.7 million is for biodiversity and $56.3 million for sustainable energy and climate change. The balance, $31.3 million, is for grants outside the two programme frameworks. The total amount programmed in 2005 was $10.1 million for 18 projects.

1. Biodiversity

26. The quickest grant-giving facility in the world to support urgent conservation needs has been established to address immediate threats to globally important biodiversity sites. World Heritage natural sites represent the world's pre-eminent areas of biodiversity and the continued identification of new sites and protection of existing ones are key parts of the global community's strategy for conservation. Partnering with UNESCO and Flora and Fauna International, the United Nations Foundation is providing funding for a major new initiative to pilot a rapid response facility that can deploy timely funding and technical assistance to address threats and emergencies affecting World Heritage sites.

27. The rapid response facility aims to (a) provide bridging funds in places where longer-term funding is being sought, (b) move funds quickly to respond to emergency situations in World Heritage natural sites, and (c) catalyse innovative financing mechanisms as part of long-term support programmes.

28. The facility will be tested over the next two years. It is designed to make small grants in the range of $5,000 to $30,000 and to deliver the funds within three weeks of the date the request is received.

2. Sustainable energy and climate change

29. India's expanding solar industry has a potential market that includes 65 per cent of rural households without access to a reliable electricity supply. The main objective of the UNEP India Solar Loan Programme, formally launched in April 2003 with funding from the United Nations Foundation and the Shell Foundation, is to help national banks, including Canara, Syndicate and Grameen Banks, to develop lending portfolios targeted to solar home systems in poorly supplied regions in southern India. By March 2005, the project had financed 14,000 solar home system loans (against an initial two-year target of 5,000 loans), through more than 2,000 participating bank branches. If the current momentum continues, the project will finance over 20,000 solar home systems over three years, making it one of the largest such loan programmes in the developing world.

30. Major programme achievements include (a) having catalysed the creation of a sustainable credit market, driven by commercial market dynamics for financing solar home systems, exceeding its stated target of loans by 180 per cent; (b) having achieved more than a 50 per cent share of the total solar home system market in two states of southern India; (c) the participation of 2,076 bank branches, mostly located in rural areas, that now offer solar home system loans as a direct result of the programme; and (d) replicability (in 2005, two new loan programmes were launched by the United Nations Environment Programme in Tunisia and Morocco for the solar thermal market).

31. China has a well-established solar water heating industry with over 1,000 factories and a market of $1 billion. However, the long-term market development faces serious challenges that include (a) the highly variable quality of products and services; (b) the emergence of unhealthy market competition due to the lack of appropriate standards and effective regulations; and (c) a failure to capture the market opportunities and synergies that exist between the solar water heating industry and the booming residential building industry. To help address these challenges, the "Improvement and expansion of solar water heating technology" project, initiated in 2002 by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in partnership with Chinese counterpart organizations, seeks to expand the use of solar energy for water heating in China by integrating high-quality solar thermal technology into attractive and cost-effective building designs. The project activities focus on strengthening capacity within the building industry for the integration of solar water heating technology into new residential construction. Integrating systems into new residential buildings is relatively new and involves both solar thermal and construction industries and many government agencies at the national and city level.

32. Major achievements include (a) a new national policy and the related regulatory directives requiring municipal governments to integrate solar water heating systems in city planning and building construction; (b) the promulgation of technical standards and building codes for the integration of solar water heating technology in the construction of new residential buildings; (c) the construction of 12 demonstration buildings covering a total of 387,900 square metres (m^2) of construction area and 12,000 m^2 of installed solar panels; (d) the leveraging of 680 million yuan ($82 million) from real estate developers, construction and solar water heating industries for the construction of demonstration buildings and other project activities; and (e) a comprehensive assessment of solar thermal technology applications worldwide, including technical, environmental and economic analysis prepared in English and Chinese.

3. Other notable initiatives

33. The synthesis report on the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment was a landmark study released in March 2005, conducted by 1,300 experts from 95 countries and co-financed by the United Nations Foundation, among other donors. The report reveals that approximately 60 percent of the ecosystem services that support life on Earth have been significantly degraded or are being used unsustainably. The study stated that any progress achieved in addressing the goals of poverty and hunger eradication, improved health and environmental protection is unlikely to be sustained if most of the ecosystem services on which humanity relies continue to be degraded.

34. The Coca-Cola Company and the United Nations Foundation, together with UNFIP, forged a partnership with UNDP in support of community-based water and sanitation reconstruction efforts in tsunami-affected areas of Thailand, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and the Maldives. $2.1 million in funds were provided by The Coca-Cola Company and the United Nations Foundation, including $50,000 in contributions from Coca-Cola employees and affiliates. In addition, The Coca-Cola Foundation Indonesia provided $300,000 in parallel funding to support a team of professional hydrogeologists to survey and map freshwater supplies in the north-eastern tip of Banda Aceh. The Coca-Cola Company also "loaned" one of its Asia-based managers

to the UNDP regional centre in Bangkok for one year to support these partnership efforts across the region. The projects are aligned with government priorities and local community needs and build upon ongoing United Nations tsunami recovery efforts in each country. The projects all support the goal and approach of "building back better" after the tsunami and the activities are being designed and implemented in close partnership with local authorities and community leaders to ensure local relevance, ownership and sustainability.

D. Peace, security and human rights

35. The peace, security and human rights portfolio has focused primarily on funding United Nations supported programmes related to recovery from natural disasters, including increasing the United Nations disaster response capacity, strengthening good governance and the rule of law, and the promotion of human rights. A total of $3.6 million was approved in 2005 for three new and two ongoing projects, bringing the total value of this portfolio to $51.6 million as at 31 December 2005.

36. In the area of human rights, the United Nations Foundation provided funds to respond to the high number of allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations peacekeeping personnel in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations, as the implementing partner, developed model guidance and training materials.

37. In the area of good governance and the rule of law, the United Nations Foundation provided support to the International Court of Justice to conduct a forum for senior legal advisers on how to streamline the procedures pertaining to the jurisdiction and proceedings of and access to the Court.

38. The United Nations Foundation continues to support a project of the Department of Political Affairs to strengthen democratic governance in Latin America. With the overall goal of developing a regional strategy for reform of the security sector, this project focuses on aspects such as cooperative security policies, confidence-building and civilian leadership of the armed forces.

39. The United Nations Foundation channelled support through UNDP to provide immediate relief to the victims of the earthquake on 8 October 2005 in Pakistan. These funds contributed to the United Nations effort to provide transitional shelters for the victims affected by the earthquake.

40. Further, the United Nations capacity to efficiently respond to natural disasters was strengthened by a joint effort of the World Food Programme and the United Nations Foundation. Through this cooperation, the United Nations will create a communications system that will deliver critical information to the humanitarian community in a timely manner by delivering emergency alerts by e-mail and short message service (SMS) to registered users in the occurrence of a natural disaster.

E. Strategic initiatives

41. The United Nations Foundation supported 23 projects and activities consistent with other priorities of the Secretary-General, totalling $10.5 million in 2005, bringing the total value of that portfolio to $26.1 million as at 31 December 2005.

Grants in this portfolio also supported activities in capacity-building, microcredit and efforts to sensitize the public to the work of the United Nations.

42. In an effort to raise public awareness of United Nations projects and activities, the United Nations Foundation combined efforts with the Department of Public Information and UNDP. The funds were used to engage a range of media outlets, including television and radio, to cover topics related to the Millennium Development Goals and the work of United Nations agencies.

43. In the light of the importance of microcredit in eradicating poverty, the United Nations Foundation provided funding in 2005 for the Global Microentrepreneurship Awards programme. The grant was used by the United Nations Capital Development Fund to raise awareness about microfinance, enhance existing microfinance programmes and contribute to the attainment of the poverty-reduction targets of the Millennium Development Goals. By recognizing the accomplishments of the winning microentrepreneurs and by coordinating events that capture media attention, the project aims to change public perception of the poor from unfortunate victims to potential entrepreneurs capable of making valuable economic contributions to their communities.

F. Support to emergency response

44. Mention has already been made in the programme sections of the present report of activities that were focused on providing assistance to victims and survivors of the Indian Ocean tsunami and the earthquake in the Azad Jammu, Kashmir and northwest province areas of Pakistan. In summary, a total of fifteen projects with a value of $98.1 million were approved to support a range of recovery and rehabilitation activities, including water and sanitation needs, humanitarian early warning, coordination and community-based recovery, reproductive health needs of tsunami-affected women, environmental sustainability and capacity-building at the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

45. Following news of the two disasters, the United Nations Foundation immediately responded by allocating $5 million to the tsunami and $1 million to the earthquake in support of the emergency and reconstruction efforts. With this as seed funding, the Foundation worked to engage its major donors as well as some new partners. The United Nations Foundation also leveraged significant partner funding by expanding its fiduciary role in partnerships with organizations such as the American Red Cross and other charitable and commercial entities and by facilitating direct contributions from the general public. Considerable third-party funding from the Bush/Clinton Tsunami Fund helped support the UNDP Adopt-An-Island initiative, and Synergos Institute, the Bloomberg Foundation, and the International Community Foundation made it possible for the United Nations Foundation and the Office of the Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery to transparently account for and publicize the United Nations utilization of funds for tsunami relief.

46. Third-party funding supported UNDP and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs tsunami-related activities, such as community-based recovery programmes and the UNDP Emergency Response and Transitional Recovery Programme for Indonesia. The numerous donors included: the India Development and Relief Fund, Pride in India Tsunami Grassroots Funding, the Asia Society, the Council on Foundations — Family Foundations, Network for Good and the United

Nations Foundation Tsunami Fund. Funds provided by the Times of India foundation, the American India foundation and the Ford Foundation were used to promote livelihood and environmental sustainability in the region. Through the support of the Coca-Cola Company, communities have taken innovative steps to meet sustainable water and sanitation needs. The United Nations Foundation partnered with the Wilma and Flora Hewlett Foundation and Zonta International Foundation to support the UNFPA emergency response focused on the reproductive health needs of women living in tsunami-affected areas. Collaboration with Vodafone helped to establish the World Food Programme (WFP) Humanitarian Early Warning System.

47. With respect to the earthquake in Pakistan, the United Nations Foundation, in collaboration with various partners, provided financial assistance to UNDP and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to support regional coordination efforts and provide transitional shelter to families affected by the earthquake. The United Nations Foundation also contributed to local NGOs and community efforts in Pakistan and funding was awarded for regional coordination in India and Afghanistan.

G. Monitoring and evaluation/programme review

48. At the outset of the United Nations Foundation/UNFIP partnership, approximately 600 grant proposals were received per annum from across the United Nations system. Those funded proved successful and encouraged the partnership to increase focus on key central problems as well as to expand efforts for mobilizing potential external partners who could join in supporting United Nations causes, including achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

III. The United Nations Democracy Fund

49. On 4 July 2005, the Secretary-General announced the creation of UNDEF at the Syrte African Union summit. The 2005 World Summit reaffirmed democracy as a universal value while indicating that there is no single model of democracy, that it does not belong to any country or region. It resolved to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations to assist Member States upon their request in democracy-building matters and welcomed the establishment of a democracy fund at the United Nations.

50. Financial support to UNDEF from a total of 16 countries amounted to $41 million. In consultation with both government and agency representatives, UNFIP is developing the terms of reference, the governance arrangements and the programme framework of UNDEF as well as the staffing arrangements.

IV. Facilitating global partnerships for development

51. In its 2005 World Summit Outcome Document, the General Assembly recognized the importance of partnership-building when it called on all countries "to enhance the contribution of non-governmental organizations, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders in national development efforts, as well as in

the promotion of the global partnership for development". Over the past eight years, the United Nations Foundation and UNFIP have together developed a myriad of partnerships, collaborations and coalitions that have engaged dozens of corporations and organizations and thousands of individuals in the work of the United Nations.

52. The partnership with the United Nations Foundation has enabled UNFIP to evolve into the partnership office of the United Nations. It provides advisory and facilitation services to United Nations system organizations and a one-stop shopping centre for potential external partners with the United Nations. UNFIP activities include providing advice to United Nations offices, funds, programmes and specialized agencies on developing public-private partnerships, building capacity and expertise to engage others and facilitating new contacts and matching interests in operational activities. Advocating on behalf of United Nations goals and objectives, UNFIP is a gateway for companies, foundations, civil society organizations and private individuals interested in achieving United Nations goals and objectives in partnership with the United Nations. By the end of 2005, UNFIP had fielded over 400 substantive enquiries from a wide variety of entities interested in partnerships with the United Nations.

53. As part of its efforts to bring new partners, UNFIP co-hosted a summit of leading American and European institutional investors that collectively manage more than $5 trillion in assets at the United Nations to explore the financial risks and opportunities of global climate change and develop appropriate responses. At the conclusion, the summit participants, including an unprecedented grouping of major pension funds, investment firms, United States state treasurers and foundations, joined with the United Nations to back a new call for urgent action by the global investment community to tackle the threat of climate change. A total of 24 leading institutional investors released a 10-point action plan to intensify efforts in providing investors with comprehensive analysis and disclosure about the financial risks presented by climate change. The group also pledged to invest $1 billion for business opportunities that assist in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

54. UNFIP and UNDP facilitated an exploratory mission for Citigroup Private Bank clients to get a first-hand view of social initiatives in Mozambique and South Africa. With the benefit of a small grant by the United Nations Foundation, nine projects focused on children's health received funding, including assistance to children orphaned by HIV/AIDS, small agricultural businesses and basic education and professional training for young people. This initiative was made possible through the alliance of the United Nations Country Teams in Maputo and Pretoria, the United Nations Foundation, UNFIP and Citigroup.

55. UNFIP continued in 2005 its collaboration with the European Foundation Centre, the umbrella organization of European foundations, with a view to engaging them in the work of the Organization. In June 2005, UNFIP took part in the 16th annual general assembly and conference of the European Foundation Centre held in Budapest, on the theme foundations for Europe: making the union work for all citizens. During his opening statement, Dan Brandstrom, president of the Stiftelsen Riksbankens Jubileumsfond and chair of the European Foundation Centre, underscored the member foundations' commitment to the Millennium Development Goals. At the conference, UNFIP organized and chaired a session entitled "The United Nations at 60 — is it ready to reform? What is Europe's role?" which

brought attention to the reform proposals of the Secretary-General seeking to gain the interest and support of foundations.

56. The film and television series entitled "The price of peace" is being produced by renowned French director Romuald Sciora, in collaboration with UNFIP and the Department of Public Information. The television series will focus on the history of the United Nations, with each episode being narrated by a "protagonist" of the time, including some of the former Secretaries-General. The documentary film will focus on the Organization of today and its relevance for the future and is being filmed by François Catonné (winner of a César award for "Indochine"), scored by Jean-Marie Blondel (winner of a César award for "Le pianiste") and edited by Martine Barraque (winner of a César award for "Le dernier metro"). The celebrated choreographer Maurice Béjart will create an original choreographed piece with a "hymn" to the United Nations, and Barbara Hendrix will complete the musical score. The first three episodes of the television series were presented in Geneva in October 2005, as part of the celebrations of the sixtieth anniversary of the United Nations. The film will be shown in its entirety at its New York premier in December 2006, and will open the International Festival on Human Rights in Geneva in March 2007.

57. African celebrities, including Senegalese 2005 world music Grammy winner and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Youssou N'Dour, performed at the "Roll back malaria" concert in Dakar on 12 and 13 March 2005. Professor Jeffrey Sachs, corporate leaders and representatives from the health and development community joined the musicians in their goal to raise awareness in the fight against malaria and obtain 100 million bed nets for Africa over the next two years. The concert was partly financed by Sumitomo Chemical Corp (Japan), ExxonMobil (United States of America) and Novartis Pharmaceutical (Switzerland). UNFIP and the United Nations Foundation secured the key involvement of United Nations agencies by supporting the concert with $100,000.

58. UNFIP, the NGO Right to Play and the United Nations New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace co-hosted the first meeting of the international working group on sport for development and peace on 24 May 2005 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. Responding to the call at the round-table forum in Athens in August 2004 for an international working group on sport for development and peace, the purpose of the event was to launch an initiative to identify successful projects worldwide and to use that information to prepare a toolkit for Governments on how to incorporate sport for development activities into national policies and international development assistance programmes. Over 70 delegates from 12 countries participated in the event organized by Adolf Ogi, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, Professor Jeffrey Sachs, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General, and Right To Play's Chief Executive Officer and four-time Olympic gold medallist Johann Olav Koss. Importance was given to incorporating sport in national and international policies and determining methods to mainstream sport in national programmes and policies. Many examples of innovative partnerships were shared with the group. The Deputy Secretary-General emphasized the role of sport as a tool to reach the Millennium Development Goals.

59. The travel service company Expedia, and the United Nations Foundation created a joint initiative in August 2005, with the support of UNFIP, to promote sustainable tourism and awareness of World Heritage sites and communities around

the world. The partnership will benefit places of cultural and natural interest by offering travel opportunities, consumer education, matching donations and local site economic development projects. Expedia support of this initiative goes beyond financial assistance and planned activities will cover areas in (a) supplying World Heritage destination education; (b) offering World Heritage trips; (c) providing matching donations; and (d) donating employee time and talent.

60. The partnership of the advisory committee of the Vodafone Group Foundation and United Nations Foundation/UNFIP held its first meeting in October 2005, where it was agreed that the partnership would engage in a process to explore two major programmatic areas: emergency communication and health surveillance. The partnership's primary goal is to combine Vodafone funding, knowledge and technology with United Nations Foundation funding, relationships and programmatic expertise to improve access to communications so that the United Nations can increase its capacity to address some of the world's challenges. Access to communications has become central to United Nations missions across the planet and the partnership completed consultations with a diverse group, including 15 United Nations agencies and task forces, a range of experts, a broad spectrum of information and communication technology trade organizations, NGOs and government agencies to identify proposals to present to the committee in 2006. The consultations revealed that the United Nations and NGOs need common communications technologies and knowledge management tools to more effectively and efficiently prepare for and react to both emergency and health crises to save lives threatened by disaster and disease.

V. Advocacy and public affairs

61. Working closely with the Department of Public Information, the United Nations Foundation and its partner organization, the Better World Fund, UNFIP continued its advocacy and public affairs efforts throughout 2005, focusing on raising awareness of the work of the United Nations and on identifying new partners to support the achievement of the goals of the Millennium Declaration.

62. In that regard, UNFIP continued its support for the Millennium Campaign by connecting outside partners with the Millennium Campaign office and routinely suggesting ways that organizations can use one or more of the goals as a framework for activities. UNFIP also works with key umbrella organizations to encourage them to focus on the Millennium Development Goals in their work.

63. In 2005, UNFIP facilitated the publication of articles and speeches by both United Nations staff and outsiders on issues relating to partnerships with the United Nations. Articles have appeared in *Agenda Publishing*, *Alliance Magazine*, *Natural Resources Forum*, *New Century Philanthropy* and the *United Nations Chronicle*. In the second quarter of 2005, UNFIP issued its first newsletter, which was distributed to over 1,000 potential partners to inform them about the possibilities of working with the United Nations.

64. In addition, UNFIP continued its close relations with the Better World Fund, the United Nations Association of the United States of America and the World Federation of United Nations Associations in outreach efforts to the public; redesigned its website to make it more accessible to users in all regions of the world; produced new and updated outreach material; and continued to compile a

database of companies and foundations that have expressed interest in partnerships with the United Nations. The Executive Director of UNFIP also spoke at a number of academic events, philanthropic conferences and meetings of NGOs, to promote partnering with the United Nations.

VI. Funding rounds

65. The cumulative value of the grants approved between 1998 and 2005 by the United Nations Foundation on the recommendation of the UNFIP advisory board amounts to $809.5 million, which has been allocated to fund 376 projects with activities involving 39 United Nations organizations in over 121 countries. The cumulative amount of co-financing from other funding partners amounts to $360.4 million, or more than one third of the total.

66. With the recommendation of the UNFIP advisory board, the United Nations Foundation Board of Directors approved funding at the level of $170.5 million during 2005, of which $46.3 million was approved in the seventeenth funding cycle and $1.5 million in the eighteenth funding cycle, a further $122.7 million was approved between Board sessions. The difference in the level of grant approvals between the seventeenth and the eighteenth funding rounds reflects a new way of operating by the United Nations Foundation. Rather than invest exclusively in projects or programmes, the United Nations Foundation Board decided to consolidate future investments by thematic area and use them core resources to build partnerships and lead advocacy campaigns in support of key themes. Broken down by theme, the grants for the year were distributed as follows: children's health, $143.5 million for five new projects and one ongoing project; population and women, $2.7 million for three new projects; environment, $10.1 million for 18 new projects; peace, security and human rights, $3.7 million for three new projects and one ongoing project; and $10.5 million for 23 new projects under strategic initiatives.

VII. Operational and financial arrangements

67. As the administrative vehicle in the United Nations to support grant-making by the United Nations Foundation, UNFIP is responsible for approving the project documents submitted by United Nations implementing partners, requesting of the United Nations Foundation the related cash contributions that represent the annual requirements of the approved projects and funding the projects, primarily by bank remittances to the implementing partners. A total of $153.1 million in cash contributions from the United Nations Foundation was channelled to implementing partners during the year, bringing the grand total to $757.8 million, representing 94 per cent of the total programme. Although project requirements are in principle funded annually, the United Nations Foundation and UNFIP first determine that the requests relate to projects that are in good standing, in other words, that substantive and financial reports are up-to-date and, as a second condition, that there is a demonstrated need for the funds.

68. UNFIP seeks to fulfil its mandate in a cost-effective manner. Management improvements and streamlined procedures have been introduced every year since inception of the programme to manage an increasing workload within the existing

administrative and technical resources, while addressing the implementation of audit observations in a timely manner.

69. As part of stewardship, monitoring and evaluation activities, emphasis was placed during the year on financial closure of projects. The United Nations Foundation and UNFIP agreed on the procedures for the closure of completed projects, involving substantive and financial reports and identification of unspent balances and interest income, where appropriate. Through this process, a total of $1.2 million was identified from unspent balances in respect of 37 projects and was made available for re-programming by United Nations Foundation management. The United Nations Foundation and UNFIP also agreed on new programme guidelines that, after due consultation with implementing partners, were promulgated in March of 2005 to set the standards for the preparation of project documents. At the focal points meeting of July 2005, it was agreed that future completion dates would be set in June or December (whichever month is sooner) so as to place all project closures in a more predictable pattern. Also, it was agreed that, to reduce transaction costs, unspent balances of $1,000 or less need not be returned to UNFIP when settling balances due on completed projects. These changes will be fully implemented when the UNFIP Handbook on Budget and Finance is updated. As additional changes are foreseen to further streamline the administration of projects, it is now anticipated that the revision will be issued in the second half of 2006.

VIII. Conclusion

70. Since its inception, the United Nations Foundation/UNFIP partnership has had a significant impact on the United Nations system at both the policy and operational levels. Building on the success of the partnership between the United Nations Foundation and the United Nations system, UNFIP collaborates with the United Nations family in the development of innovative programmes and projects in support of, inter alia, the Millennium Declaration, the Millennium Development Goals and the 2005 Summit Outcome. In light of its ability to provide fast-track programme management processes and expeditious administrative support and oversight, UNFIP was tasked with the establishment and executive management of the new fund for democracy-building efforts worldwide, UNDEF.

71. Ted Turner's visionary support of United Nations causes has been a clear demonstration of how public-private partnerships can have a major impact on international development. The United Nations Foundation's extrabudgetary contributions have created opportunities for innovative and collaborative programming and new ways of alliance-building. With the United Nations Foundation challenge grants, new partners have come forward to engage with the United Nations system in support of collective global action.

72. Building on the "problems, not projects" approach, UNFIP has been able to use the catalytic power of the partnership with the United Nations Foundation to engage other partners and increase the level of new resources and technical expertise for the poverty-reduction and peacebuilding work of the United Nations system.

73. Designed as the operational arm of the Office of the Secretary-General in its partnership with the United Nations Foundation, UNFIP has become the facilitator

of new partnerships and alliances with the private sector, foundations and civil society organizations for the operational activities of the United Nations system. It also continues to work with the intergovernmental machinery, including the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, providing substantive support and policy advice on public-private partnerships and on outreach and advocacy activities. UNFIP remains committed to playing a vital role in global partnership development within the Secretariat.

Annex I

Composition of the 2005 United Nations Fund for International Partnerships advisory board

Louise Frechette, Deputy Secretary-General

Munir Akram, President of the Economic and Social Council (Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations)

Christopher Bancroft Burnham, Under-Secretary-General for Management

Lincoln C. Chen, Director, Global Equity Initiative, Harvard University

Jose Antonio Ocampo, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs

Mary Oakes Smith, fellow, Information Technology for Education and Health, World Bank

Franklin A. Thomas, former President, Ford Foundation

Amina Basho Wali, Chairman of the Second Committee (Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations)

Amir Dossal, (ex officio), Executive Director, United Nations Fund for International Partnerships

Annex II

Projects funded by the United Nations Foundation, by programme area

Programme area	As at 31 December 2004		Approvals in 2005		Total		Contributed by		
	Number of projects	Value (United States dollars)	Number of projects	Value (United States dollars)	Number of projects	Value (United States dollars)	United Nations Foundation	Parallel donors	Other donors
Children's health	56	288 964 541	5	143 486 007	61	432 450 548	155 644 432	47 324 101	276 806 116
Population and women	84	129 408 854	3	2 700 000	87	132 108 854	115 831 716	22 038 737	16 277 138
Environment	107	157 168 646	18	10 101 225	125	167 269 871	120 187 871	226 359 001	47 082 000
Peace, security and human rights	53	47 892 070	3	3 659 915	56	51 551 985	37 255 530	20 445 750	14 296 455
Other	24	15 643 591	23	10 508 936	47	26 152 527	20 244 682	5 703 442	5 907 845
Total	**324**	**639 077 702**	**52**	**170 456 083**	**376**	**809 533 785**	**449 164 231**	**321 871 034**	**360 369 554**